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CESC Warns defaulters to clear dues in 3 days or face power cut

Mysuru, Dec. 7- Burdened by bill payment defaulters, the Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation (CESC) has issued a strict 3-day deadline (with effect from Dec. 6) for clearing pending power bills. Defaulters failing to comply will face disconnection of electricity supply.

In a press release, CESC highlighted that numerous consumers, Gram Panchayats, utility providers and other organisations have failed to pay power bills on time. Consequently, CESC has resolved to initiate disconnections for defaulters who do not clear dues within the stipulated time-frame.

As per the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission guidelines, customers must pay power bills within 15 days of issuance. If dues remain unpaid beyond this period, it is considered a 15-day notice period. Non-payment during this notice period authorises CESC to disconnect the power supply.

CESC emphasised that, barring essential services such as Government Hospitals, drinking water facilities and street lighting, power connections for all other defaulting customers will be severed if bills are not cleared within three days. **A mass disconnection drive is scheduled from Dec. 9.**

CESC Managing Director G. Sheela urged all defaulters to settle outstanding bills immediately to avoid disruptions. "We appeal to customers to clear pending dues within the deadline to prevent inconvenience," she said.

CESC has launched a **toll-free helpline 1912** to assist the public and farmers in reporting issues such as leaning electricity poles, hanging or snapped power lines and malfunctioning transformers in their areas.

Drug trade: City youth arrested in Mangaluru

Accomplice Nigerian also held; 200 grams of MDMA worth Rs. 10 lakh seized

Mangaluru, Dec. 7 (RK & BCT)- The Mangaluru City Crime Branch (CCB) Police have arrested two persons, including a resident of Mysuru and a Nigerian from Bengaluru, for alleged drug peddling.

The CCB sleuths gave the names of arrested persons as K.G. Darshan, 25, a resident of Nazarbad in Mysuru city and a native of Andralli in Bengaluru North, and Chika Joseph Eze, 26, a native of Anambara State in Nigeria and resident of Bettahalasoor in Bengaluru.

The Police seized articles worth Rs. 18.25 lakh, which included 200 grams of **Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA),** commonly known as ecstasy drug worth Rs. 10 lakh, a car, five mobile phones, five debit cards, seven SIM cards and digital weight machine.

Darshan

Chika Joseph

Following the recent arrest of Iqbal by Bajpe Police for drug peddling in their jurisdiction, information was gathered about suppliers involved in providing MDMA to the accused. Acting on this lead, the CCB Police led by Inspector H.M. Shyam Sundar and Bajpe Police Inspector G.S. Sandeep conducted a special operation and detained the two accused.

Sandeep told *Star of Mysore* that Darshan was caught selling the banned narcotic substance on Dec. 3 at Pumpwell Circle in Mangaluru.

(See YOUTH on page 4)

COVID-19 still a cause of worry for Mysuru

- After four years of outbreak, 10 succumb to deadly virus in city this year
- 39 COVID-related deaths reported in State till Nov. 21, 2024

Mysuru, Dec. 7 (VNS)- Mysuru continues to grapple with the impact of COVID-19, as the district has recorded 10 deaths from the virus in 2024, the highest in Karnataka, according to the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

The State reported a total of 39 COVID-19-related deaths up to Nov. 21, 2024, with Mysuru accounting for the largest share.

In comparison, the district saw six COVID-19 deaths last year, while Bengaluru Urban District led the State with 17 fatalities. Mysuru was one of the hardest-hit areas during the peak of the pandemic and ranked second in deaths behind Bengaluru in both 2021 and 2022.

Bengaluru Urban District recorded 4,344 deaths in 2020, 12,074 in 2021 and 575 in 2022, while Mysuru had 1,012 deaths in 2020, 1,416 in 2021 and 145 deaths in 2022.

The concerns on COVID-19 deaths were raised by Gulbarga MP Radhakrishna Doddamani during the ongoing winter session of the Parliament.

In response, the Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Prataprao Jadhav, provided a detailed update on COVID-19 situation in Karnataka.

This year, out of the 31 districts in Karnataka, 14 districts recorded zero COVID-19 deaths, while nine districts had one death each, four districts reported two deaths each and one district recorded three, four, and five deaths respectively. Mysuru, however, recorded the highest number of 10 deaths.

(See COVID on page 4)

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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Saturday 7th December 2024

MP Yaduveer to inaugurate carol singing contest tomorrow

Mysuru, Dec. 7- The Carmel Catholic Association (CCA), Mysuru, will host the 32nd Annual Carol Singing Competition on Dec. 8 (Sunday) at Maharaja's College Centenary Hall in city from 8.30 am to 6.30 pm.

This event, organised since 1988, celebrates the joy and goodwill of the Christmas season through carols that spread messages of love, peace and unity.

The competition features 12 categories for participants from Pre-Primary to Colleges and Religious Congregations.

Over 100 teams, comprising around 4,000 participants, will perform carols in English, Kannada and other regional languages.

Winners in each category will be given attractive trophies and cash prizes. Additionally, the school accumulating the highest overall points will be honoured with the coveted Champions Trophy. Each singing team will consist of 5 to 50 members.

Carols presented in English, Kannada and other regional languages will share messages of hope and joy in anticipation of Christmas and New Year-2025.

Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar, MP, will be the chief guest to inaugurate the contest at 8.30 am tomorrow. Most Reverend Dr. Bernard Moras, Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Mysore, will deliver the benediction address. Rev. Fr. Rijo Thomas, CMI- CCA Advisor and Joseph Francis, CEO & ED, Rishi FIBC Solutions Pvt. Ltd., will be the guests of honour.

The valedictory ceremony will begin at 6.30 pm with S.L. Chennabasavanna, Director, Karnataka Police Academy, as the chief guest. Mar Sebastian Adayantharath, Bishop of Mandya Diocese, will deliver the Christmas message. Rev. Fr. Augustine Payampallil, Provincial, St. Paul's Province, Mysore and Patron of CCA and P. Moideen, Chairman, Loyal World Group will be the guests of honour. Prof. Joseph Mathew, CCA President, will preside over the function.

For details contact, M.K. Johny, Convenor on Mob: 94485-76371.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

BOLSTER TECH TO SECURE UPI PAYMENTS: ***UPI (Unified Payments Interface) has not only come to stay but is ruling India's digital payment landscape. In a short time, the electronic payment system has come to dominate financial transactions at the lowest levels in the country. While UPI has introduced greater ease and speed into payments, it has also left room for fraud and malpractices. The Ministry of Finance has informed Parliament that the monetary value of frauds related to UPI increased from Rs. 573 crore in 2022-23 to Rs. 1,087 crore in 2023-24 — an 89 percent jump. The number of incidents involving fraud almost doubled from 7,25,000 in 2022-23 to 1.34 million. The volume of digital payment transactions has grown at a compounded annual rate of 44 percent and the value of transactions stands at Rs. 3,659 trillion. About 80 percent of this is accounted for by UPI...***

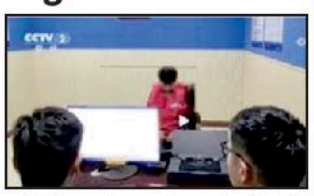
Fraudsters manage to move one step ahead of the system and can beat it in multiple ways. The best and latest technology should always be put in service of the UPI system and it should be alert to breaches, every second of the day. Frauds happen in a fraction of a second and the effort should be to prevent them rather than to bring the lost money back.

Recovery is not always possible and even when it happens, it is after a lapse of time and after having caused distress. It would have also caused losses to the people involved in the transaction which the recovery would not compensate for. The losses would especially hit ordinary people who are increasingly using UPI channels.

It is necessary to increase awareness among the users and urge them to adopt safety measures but the primary responsibility to make the system safe and fraud-proof rests with the authorities who manage it.—*In Deccan Herald*

NEWS SPARKLERS

Bored man poses as criminal, gets arrested



Beijing: A man bored with his daily life recently got detained for posting a "wanted order" in his name on social media and bragging about the countless crimes he had allegedly committed.

The man from northern China, took to social media to spread lies about himself, including that he had recently extorted 30 million yuan ($ 4 million) from a company, that he owned a firearm and ammunition and challenging people to find him if they wanted a 30,000 yuan ($4,000) reward. His post went viral, but it also caught the attention of Chinese law enforcement monitoring social media and he ended up behind bars for his unusual stunt.

The man told Police that he was sorry for misleading them and explained that he had simply been simply bored and had acted out of frustration.

AI-powered app that predicts when you die

New York: For many people who are curious to know when their demise will occur, there is a controversial Death Clock. Launched in July, this AI-powered app uses a dataset of over 1,200 life expectancy studies and 53 million participants to provide personalised death predictions to its users.

It's a dark premise, to be sure, but financial planners have been paying a lot of attention to Death Clock because of its potential to motivate people to more carefully plan their finances for retirement.

Death Clock users are required to answer a questionnaire that includes basic demographic information such as age, gender, and ethnicity, as well as detailed questions about family history, mental health and chronic diseases. Diet, exercise habits, stress levels, and sleep patterns are also factored in by advanced algorithms in order to provide the most accurate death prediction possible.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Seasonal Influenza (Flu), Cause: The influenza virus affects the respiratory system and spreads via respiratory droplets or contaminated surfaces.
Symptoms: Fever, cough, sore throat, fatigue, and occasionally pneumonia.

By Dr. Veeresh J - Associate Consultant - Internal Medicine Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Swaraanjali to host 'Samate Mamate' on Dec. 8

Mysuru, Dec. 7- Swaraanjali, a group of passionate singers from different professions, have come together to present 'Samate Mamate,' which is dedicated to all senior citizens.

Swaraanjali conducted various competitions and health evaluation camp for senior citizens. Valedictory function and prize distribution of these events will be conducted on Dec. 8 at MMC&RI auditorium in J.K. Grounds at 5 pm.

H.R. Leelavathi, who is a well-known singer, composer and poet and Prof. M. Krishnegowda, noted orator, will be the chief guests. A few senior citizen beneficiaries will be felicitated on this day.

The following singers will perform for the live orchestra tomorrow: Dr. Raghuveer, Dr. Somanath Vasudeva, Dr. Seethalakshmi, Dr. Roopashree, Balaji, Anand Madhwa, Suchitra, Rashmi, Dr. Balram, Meera, Bhuwaneshwari, Manju Joshy, Jeevan, Divya, Darshitha, Nikhil Prabhu, Srinivas and Amogh.

Live orchestra will be by Raghavendra Prasad and anchoring by Akashvani Manjunath.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	Harangi DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284 feet**	Maximum **2,859 feet**
Today's level **124.80 feet**	Today's level **2,280.15 feet**	Today's level **2,836.49 feet**
Last year's level **96.54 feet**	Last year's level **2,274.01 feet**	Last year's level **2,833.86 feet**
Yesterday's level **124.80 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,280.08 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,836.27 feet**
Today's Inflow **3,577 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **1,127 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **495 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **3,367 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **300 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **200 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- *A Cheetah needs to breathe at 150 breaths per minute while running at full speed.*
- *A Cheetah's feet only touch the ground twice during each stride, making it look like it's flying!*
- *The scientific name for Cheetah is acinonyx jubatus. Acinonyx means "no move claw" in Greek, a reference to their non-retractable claw.*
- *The word "Cheetah" is derived from Hindi word "Chita" meaning "spotted one."*
- *A Cheetah can grow up to seven feet long, including its body and tail.*

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

The doctor was out...
His 4-year-old daughter answered the phone.
Is the doctor at home?
"No"
When will he be back?
"I don't know. He went out on an eternity case!"

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 84.67
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 107.87
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 23.05
1 Euro	= Rs. 89.48

VOICE OF THE READER

Speed-breakers needed urgently on KRS Road

Sir,

There is an urgent need to install scientific road humps/speed-breakers on KRS Road, particularly in front of Coastal Garden Restaurant and Brigade Symphony Apartment.

This road serves as a primary route for people and vehicles heading to KRS/Brindavan Gardens and experiences heavy traffic throughout the day. Traffic volume multiplies significantly during weekends and holidays, further exacerbated by the presence of industries and educational institutions along the stretch.

The absence of speed-breakers has led to vehicles being driven at dangerous speeds. The situation worsens near the railway crossing, which frequently closes for passing trains. In their haste to cross before the gates shut, vehicles often speed recklessly, creating a perilous environment. Several accidents have already occurred on this stretch, and the risk of a major accident looms large. It is imperative that the authorities concerned address this issue immediately by installing speed-breakers to ensure the safety of all road users.

—Kasi Ganeshan

Metagalli 5.12.2024

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NEWS BRIEFS

Postal Pension Adalat on Dec. 11

Mysuru Division Postal Pension Adalat will be held at the Office of the Senior Superintendent of Post Offices, Akashvani Circle, KRS Road, at 11 am on Dec. 11. The Postal Pensioners can submit their grievances, if any, by Dec. 10.

Child Labour Helpline

In order to make Mysuru district free of child labour, the Labour Department has launched Child Helpline No. 1098 and Labour Helpline No. 155214. The members of the public can call this Helpline or inform their nearest Police Station or the designated officials of concerned Departments, if they come across employment of children in hotels, garages, workshops, houses etc., in their neighbourhood.

Deadline extended

Backward Classes Welfare Department has extended the deadline for submission of online applications by Backward Class students and Nomadic/ Semi-Nomadic Tribe students coming under Category-1 and studying in PUC or Equivalent courses and Integrated Degree courses, for availing Post-Matric student scholarship, fee exemption and 'Vidya Siri' scheme benefits (under which students will get free boarding and lodging), to Dec. 20. The eligible students can file applications through the website: ***https://ssp.postmatric.karnataka.gov.in***
For details, contact Mob: 80507-70005 or Helpline: 1902 or e-mail: *postmatrichelp@karnataka.gov.in*

Intl. Day of Persons with Disabilities

The Departments of Clinical Services & Special Education, All India Institute of Speech & Hearing (AIISH), will be celebrating International Day of Persons with Disabilities from 10 am to 1 pm on Dec. 9 at Gymkhana, AIISH, Mysuru. Deputy Commissioner (DC) G. Lakshmikanth Reddy will be the chief guest. Directorate for the Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens (Bengaluru) Joint Director S. Nataraj will be the guest of honour. AIISH Director Dr. M. Pushpavathi will preside.

Ph.D awardee

M. Lokesha has been awarded Ph.D in Library and Information Science by the University of Mysore for his thesis 'Information Literacy Skills Among Students and Faculty Members of Constituent Colleges in Universities of Karnataka: A Study' [Guide: Dr. H. Adithya Kumari]

Wild elephants roam streets of Kollegal, sparking panic

Kollegal, Dec. 7 (BCT)- Two wild elephants created a stir in Kollegal early yesterday as they roamed the streets, leaving residents both astonished and anxious.

The unexpected sighting puzzled residents, especially since any forested areas do not border Kollegal town. The arrival of these gentle giants has sparked curiosity and concern among the townspeople.

CCTV footage revealed the elephants wandering through residential areas after 2 am. Luckily, the streets were deserted, preventing any attacks. Before entering the town, the elephants had crossed nearby fields but surprisingly refrained from consuming or damaging crops.

Their journey through Kollegal was captured on CCTV as they moved from the fields to Devanga Pete's Dubatti Veerashetti Street, Nadukal Street and Chowdeshwari Temple Street. At Chowdeshwari Temple Street, the duo temporarily split up, possibly startled by barking dogs, before reuniting and continuing their exploration.

No harm to vehicles

The elephants then proceeded along Marigudi Street, passed a Mosque on Dr. Rajkumar Road and even entered a petrol pump on Dr. Ambedkar Road. After circling the pump, they made their way towards the Town Police Station Road. Despite their prolonged presence, they caused no harm to parked vehicles or property, roaming peacefully through the town.

One vigilant resident, upon spotting the elephants through a window, promptly alerted the Town Police Station staff. The Police informed the Forest Department, which dispatched a team to guide the elephants back to the forest. Using fireworks, the Forest officials successfully redirected the elephants along the Kollegal-Bengaluru Road to their natural habitat.

Foresters revealed that the elephants had strayed from the Sattegala forest. Chief Conservator of Forests (Chamarajanagar Circle), T. Heeralal, confirmed that the wild elephants were successfully driven back to the forests.

K.R. Nagar update

In a separate incident early yesterday morning, two wild elephants were seen in Adaguru village in K.R. Nagar taluk. Unlike Kollegal, these elephants ventured into paddy fields, destroying crops and triggering panic among villagers.

Forest officials rushed to the scene and initiated operations to drive the animals back to the forest.

Shivananda Murthy is Mandya ADC

Appointment amidst spiritual pursuits of Dr. Nagaraj

Mandya, Dec. 7- B.C. Shivananda Murthy has been appointed as the new Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) of Mandya district, according to a notification issued by K.H. Keshava Prasad, Under Secretary to the State Government.

Shivananda Murthy

Shivananda Murthy, who previously served as Joint Commissioner (Markets) at the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), has a strong connection with the district, having held roles as Assistant Commissioner and Tahsildar earlier in his career.

Dr. H.L. Nagaraj, the outgoing ADC, has taken a long leave to pursue spiritual interests, with approval from senior officials. District Minister N. Cheluvarayaswamy had recently mentioned Dr. Nagaraj's request for extended leave during a public event.

This unexpected change has disrupted preparations for the upcoming 87th Akhila Bharata Kannada Sahitya Sammelana, scheduled from Dec. 22 to 24, as Dr. Nagaraj was overseeing several critical responsibilities.

A popular officer

Dr. Nagaraj is widely admired for his approachable demeanour and effective administration. During his tenure as Tahsildar of Nagamangala taluk, he earned the goodwill of many. Influenced by Adichunchanagiri Mutt, he briefly took *sanyasa deeksha* before returning to service at the insistence of friends and well-wishers.

Dr. Nagaraj

In addition to his duties as ADC, Dr. Nagaraj concurrently served as the Managing Director of MySugar.

Future role at Vishwa Vokkaliga Mutt?

Sources suggest that Dr. Nagaraj is being considered as the successor to Sri Kumara Chandrashekaranatha Swamiji, the current pontiff of the Vishwa Vokkaliga Mahasamsthana Mutt at Kengeri. The ailing Swamiji is reportedly preparing to pass on leadership and Dr. Nagaraj is a likely choice to assume this significant spiritual role.

Drug trade: City youth arrested in Mangaluru

(Continued from page 1)

"During Darshan's questioning, it came to light that he procured Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA) from New Delhi and Chika Joseph Eze was the supplier. Subsequently, Joseph was also arrested.

The Police statement said that Chika Joseph Eze came to India on an employment visa in May 2023 and worked in a hair saloon in Yelahanka, Bengaluru. The MDMA was being transported from Bengaluru and sold in Mangaluru.

The Yelahanka New Town Police in Bengaluru arrested Chika Joseph Eze for alleged illegal selling of MDMA. He was released on bail four months ago, the Police said.

The Police are on the lookout for other associates of Darshan and Chika Joseph Eze.

Mangaluru City Police Commissioner Anupam Agrawal said the accused were operating from Bengaluru, collaborating with Darshan, to transport and sell MDMA to various individuals in Mangaluru. "The investigation into the drug trafficking network continues, as several others are believed to be involved," the Commissioner said.

COVID-19 deaths in Mysuru due to comorbidities: DHO

(Continued from page 1)

District Health Officer (DHO) Dr. P.C. Kumaraswamy clarified that the deaths in Mysuru were primarily due to comorbid conditions such as uncontrolled diabetes, kidney ailments and cancer, which lead to immunity deficiencies.

Dr. Kumaraswamy

"These patients often come to hospitals in the terminal stages of their illnesses and when tested for various health conditions, COVID-19 is sometimes detected. Given their already weakened immune systems, the infection exacerbates their condition, leading to death," he explained.

Dr. Kumaraswamy emphasised that the situation in Mysuru was not alarming, as no secondary or tertiary contacts had been identified. To mitigate further risk, COVID-19 testing for all inpatients has been made mandatory at K.R. Hospital and JSS Hospital, he added.

Will make honest efforts to form Greater Mysuru: G.T. Devegowda

Mysuru, Dec. 7 (DM)- Chamundeshwari JD(S) MLA G.T. Devegowda (GTD) has pledged to make sincere efforts towards forming a **Greater Mysuru City Corporation,** incorporating local bodies and Gram Panchayats in the city's outskirts.

GTD

Speaking at the Kannada Rajyotsava celebration organised by the Ward No. 8 Development and Management Committee at C Block Park in Vijayanagar 3rd Stage recently, GTD highlighted the challenges of developing the expansive Chamundeshwari Assembly Constituency, which spans a vast 50-km radius.

Criticising MUDA for failing to develop layouts despite collecting various taxes after plan approvals, GTD pointed out that while Vijayanagar 3rd Stage has not yet been officially transferred to MCC, basic amenities have been somehow managed in the area.

He also spoke about the ongoing Hale Unduwadi Drinking Water Project, being implemented at a cost of Rs. 650 crore, aiming to provide drinking water to all homes by the end of next year. Additionally, he noted the improvement of parks, drainage, and Underground Drainage (UGD) networks in the region.

Addressing the inclusion of outskirt localities in different Town Panchayats, he mentioned Vijayanagar 4th Stage being brought under Bogadi Town Panchayat, along with similar moves for other areas.

Expressing concern over the diminishing use of Kannada, GTD urged citizens to prioritise their mother-tongue, Kannada, while appreciating the contributions of the erstwhile Mysore Maharajas to education and other fields.

He called for promoting Kannada and human values among children, citing the legacies of great Kannada scholars like Alur Venkatarao, Kuvempu, B.M. Shri, and Masti Venkatesh Iyengar.

Government Girls PU College, Rajivnagar, Principal S. Balasubramaniam delivered the keynote address, focusing on Kannada language and heritage.

Ward No. 8 Development and Management Committee President S. Manjappa presided over the event, with several office-bearers, including Chaitanyakumar, T.T. Ramesh, Dr. Mohankumar, Dr. Mahadevaiah, Dr. B.P. Parashivamurthy, K.C. Javaregowda, K. Nanjundaiah, Shivakumar, R.N. Srinivasmurthy, Suvarna Reddy, Vijayakumari, Latha and Tangamma were present.

Govt. appealed to reclaim grabbed lake land at Nachanahallipalya

Mysuru, Dec. 7 (MTY&DM)- S. Manjunath (Mahesh), a resident of Nachanahallipalya, has alleged that lake lands coming under different survey numbers of Kasaba Hobli, are being sold by some parties after creating fake documents and records.

Addressing a press meet here yesterday, Manjunath said that lands coming under Nachanahallipalya Survey Nos. 38 and 93 and Dattagalli village Survey Nos. 82, 52 and 61 originally belonged to Nachanahallipalya Lake. But, Govindaswamy of Nachanahallipalya and his son Raghavendra have illegally formed sites on these lands and are selling it for monetary gains. Though a complaint has been filed with the authorities concerned, no action has been taken as yet against them, he alleged.

Pointing out that the two have created fake documents in the name of Shervegar Lakshmi Bovi and claiming that the properties belonged to their ancestors, he said the duo sold sites with support of MUDA and MCC officials.

Besides, the father-son have claimed to have lodged a case against the Government and later reached a compromise, which is all but a drama. This apart, the duo falsely claimed that the property was donated to them by Mysore Maharajas. But the fact is that the lands in question are part of the Lake, Mahesh said adding that he has lodged a complaint with Lokayukta and Dy. Commissioner seeking action against the creators of fake documents. He also appealed the Government to reclaim the grabbed lake land.

Nachanahallipalya residents G.M. Mahadeva and M.Mahadeva were present at press meet.

No power supply tomorrow

Mysuru, Dec. 7- As Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited (KPTCL) has taken up its 3rd quarterly maintenance works at Adakanahalli Power Receiving Centre, Hemmaragala and Karya Power Distribution Centres, there will be no power supply tomorrow between 10 am and 5 pm in the following areas:

Karya Power Distribution Centre: Hadya, Kahalli, Kamahalli, Karya, Aralikattehundi, Baanuru, Chinnamballi, Chunchanahalli, Hanumanapura, Kakkaharahatti, Bhogayyanahundi villages and Gram Panchayat limits.

Hemmaragala Power Distribution Centre: Hemmaragala, Nerale, Hedatale villages and Gram Panchayat limits.

Adakanahalli Power Receiving Centre: Adakanahalli Industrial area, according to a press release from CESC Executive Engineer, Nanjangud Division.

Rev. Fr. S.D. Joseph passes away

Mysuru, Dec. 7- Rev. Fr. S.D. Joseph, a priest of the Diocese of Mysore, breathed his last this morning at 7.45 am at St. Joseph's Hospital in city where he was admitted a few days ago following brief illness. He was 71.

Fr. S.D. Joseph

Born on Mar. 28,1953 at Kollegal, he was ordained as Priest on Apr. 25,1983. He leaves behind 7 sisters, 2 brothers and a host of relatives and friends.

The funeral mass will be held at 4 pm today at St. Joseph's Cathedral (St. Philomena's Church), Mysuru.

The mortal remains were kept in the Cathedral Church from 2 pm for the family members, Parishioners and the public to pay their last respects to the departed soul.

Condoled: In his condolence message, Archbishop Emeritus Bernard Moras, Apostolic Administrator, Diocese of Mysore, said, "Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul rest in peace."

Obituary

Hotelier D. Dharmaprakash

Mysuru, Dec. 7- City Hotelier D. Dharmaprakash (74), owner of Darshan Palace Hotel in Ittigegud, passed away at his residence in Yadavagiri here on Friday night following a massive heart attack.

He leaves behind his wife Susheeladevi, son Vikram, daughters Pinky, Archana and Poonam and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites will be held at the foot of Chamundi Hill after the arrival of one of his daughters who is staying in the US.

Naval Veterans Association to celebrate Navy Day on Sunday

Mysuru, Dec. 7- Navy Day is celebrated on Dec. 4 every year to recognise the achievements of the Indian Navy and its role in the country. Dec. 4 was chosen as on that day in 1971, during Operation Trident, the Indian Navy sank four Pakistani vessels including PNS Khaibar, defeating the Pakistani Navy. On this day, those killed in the Indo-Pakistan War of 1971 are also remembered.

To celebrate the Navy Week, the registered Naval Veterans Association, Mysore Revenue Division, had conducted blood donation camp on Dec. 1 in Mysuru and is conducting Navy Day on Dec. 8 (Sunday) at Hotel Rio Meridian. This celebration will be witnessed by 1971 war Veterans who contributed during the war, Naval Veterans with their families and other dignitaries.

On this occasion, the Association will honour Naval War veterans A.K Shivan from Ujjire, aged 78 years who was participated 1965 and 1971 Indo-Pak wars. He was the commissioning crew of submarine INS Karanj (S23) which was the First submarine that participated in 1971 Indo-Pak war and patrolling near Karachi Harbour for continuous 23 days and ensured no external logistic support to the Harbour.

For details, contact Naval Veterans Association President Gajanan T. Bhat on Mob: 94498-23444, according to a press release.

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ಶಿಶು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಯೋಜನಾಧಿಕಾರಿರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ಕಛೇರಿ
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ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಪಿರಿಯಾಪಟ್ಟಣ ಶಿಶು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಯೋಜನಾ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಪಿರಿಯಾಪಟ್ಟಣ ತಾಲೂಕು, ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಈ ಯೋಜನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳಿಗೆ 2024–25ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಸದರಿ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಅರ್ಹ ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿ/ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಮತಿಯಿಂದ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಲು ದರ ಪಟ್ಟಿ ಕೋರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದ್ದು ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 04.12.2024** ರಿಂದ **16.12.2024** ರವರೆಗೆ ರಜಾ ದಿನಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.30 ರಿಂದ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. **ದಿನಾಂಕ:16.12.2024ರ** ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಯ ಒಳಗಾಗಿ ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಶಿಶು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಯೋಜನಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಪಿರಿಯಾಪಟ್ಟಣ ಇಲ್ಲಿಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು **ದಿನಾಂಕ 17.12.2024ರ** ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 12.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರ ಸಮಕ್ಷಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು
ಕಛೇರಿ ವಿಳಾಸ: ಶಿಶು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಯೋಜನಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕಛೇರಿ, ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ಕಛೇರಿ ಹಿಂಭಾಗ, ಸ್ವೀಶಕ್ತಿ ಭವನ, ಪಿರಿಯಾಪಟ್ಟಣ
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2.	ಡಿ.ವಿ.ಸಿ ಮೆಸ್ಸೆಂಜರ್	01
3.	ಗ್ರೂಪ್–ಡಿ	02

ಸಹಿ/– ಶಿಶು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಯೋಜನಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ಪಿರಿಯಾಪಟ್ಟಣ
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IN BLACK & WHITE

Vikram Muthanna

Perils of Hero Worship

Frenzied fans of 'Pushpa 2.' *Picture right:* ***Portraits of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and Bhagat Singh behind Atishi Marlena, Chief Minister of Delhi.***

Three days ago, 39-year-old Revathi lost her life, and her nine-year-old son was critically injured in a stampede at a movie theatre.

The chaos erupted as frenzied fans scrambled to catch a glimpse of Allu Arjun, the star of *'Pushpa 2.'* This tragedy isn't an isolated incident but a glaring symptom of India's dangerous obsession with hero worship.

India's love for its heroes often borders on the divine. Temples have been built for Bollywood stars like Amitabh Bachchan, Rajinikanth and even Kushboo. In politics, the devotion is equally extreme.

A few years ago, Shankar Rao, a Minister from Andhra Pradesh, built a temple for Congress leader Sonia Gandhi, referring to her as *"Telangana Talli"*— the Goddess of Telangana.

This cultural obsession with deifying individuals sometimes becomes bizarre and even tragic.

Take the case of 25-year-old Pawan Kumar from Uttar Pradesh, who cut off his finger after mistakenly voting for the wrong party. Or the aftermath of M.G. Ramachandran's death in 1987 when 31 grief-stricken fans committed suicide.

Such acts reveal a worrying lack of rationality. The devotion goes beyond admiration, becoming an unhealthy surrender of individual thought and agency.

This phenomenon isn't restricted to the uneducated or economically disadvantaged. It pervades every class, as seen in the recent example of AAP leader Atishi Marlena, who became Chief Minister of Delhi.

When taking charge as Chief Minister, Marlena refused to sit on the Chief Minister's chair, declaring that it 'belonged' to her predecessor Arvind Kejriwal and instead sat on another chair.

Comparing herself to Bharatha from the *Ramayana,* she vowed to 'guard' the chair until Kejriwal returned, just as Bharatha ruled in Lord Rama's absence with Rama's sandals on the throne.

The irony was stark. As Marlena sat at her CM desk, behind her were portraits of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and Bhagat Singh — both staunch critics of hero worship.

Bhagat Singh once said, *"Criticise a hero, who is generally believed to be above criticism...the strength of your argument shall force the multitude to decry you."*

Dr. Ambedkar, too, warned against blind reverence, calling it *"a sign of debasement"* that renders individuals incapable of independent thought.

Even more ironic was Marlena's name itself — a portmanteau of Marx and Lenin, two communist thinkers who firmly opposed the politics of hero worship.

Marx famously rejected the notion of saviours, while Lenin argued that individuals must control their own reality.

Yet here was a well-educated leader indulging in the same hero worship that her ideological forebears abhorred.

At its core, hero worship is dangerous because it stifles logic, critical thinking and accountability. In India, it manifests across domains, especially politics and cinema.

Criticise Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and you risk being branded anti-national by fervent supporters.

Similarly, question Rahul Gandhi, and you'll face vitriol from so-called 'liberal' circles.

Both sides have devolved into hero-worshipping factions, incapable of rational debate or constructive dissent.

Movie stars command near-religious devotion, particularly in South India. Fans celebrate their birthdays like festivals, build temples in their honour and, in tragic instances, sacrifice lives.

Stampedes at film screenings, violent clashes between fan clubs and property damage during protests all underline the perils of unbridled adoration.

India's cultural fabric is steeped in the idea of *bhakti* (devotion), but when this devotion manifests into blind fury — *shakti* (force) it becomes a menace to society.

Dr. Ambedkar aptly differentiated between two types of hero worship: *"One rooted in admiration for noble qualities and the other in blind, obsessive loyalty. The former does not take away one's intelligence to think and act independently. The latter one makes a perfect fool. The former involves no disaster to the State. The latter is the source of positive danger to it."*

Fanatic displays of loyalty — whether smashing theatre seats, trolling dissenters online, or equating leaders to gods — are antithetical to the ideals of a progressive, rational society.

In India we have a bad habit — we feel we have no right to criticise anyone who has done some good work or whom the 'media' has declared heroes.

Just because an individual is of good character, doesn't mean his decisions cannot be questioned? On the other hand, a bad decision does not mean a person is evil either.

We Indians need to learn the critical importance of balancing admiration with accountability. Respect for achievements should coexist with the ability to question flaws.

We must remember that our heroes — be they politicians, actors or thinkers — are human, not infallible deities. Be inspired by heroic acts, but never surrender your agency at the altar of any mortal.

e-mail: vikram@starofmysore.com

Subramanya Shashti Jatra: Devotees swarm Snake God Temple at Siddalingapura

Mysuru, Dec. 7 (MTY&DM)- Devotees from across the State gathered in large numbers at the Sri Subramanyeshwaraswamy Temple in Siddalingapura on Mysuru-Bengaluru Road this morning for the temple's annual Shashti Jatra.

The Temple, dedicated to the Snake God and renowned for its Shashti Jatra, opened its doors to devotees as early as 3.30 am, following completion of traditional rituals, which began at 2.30 am.

Called 'Skanda Shashti' by priests, Subramanya Shashti is a major festival in the Margashira Maasa dedicated to Lord Subramanya. Various puja rituals included Rudrabhisheka, Sahasranamarchane, Ashtavadhana, Mahanyasa-purvaka Rudrabhisheka to the idol of Lord Subramanyeshwaraswamy.

Despite the chilly weather, a large crowd had gathered at the temple even before dawn, eager to have the darshan of the presiding deity and offer their obeisance on this auspicious day.

History of Nagabharana: The deity was adorned with 6-foot-high silver jewellery (Nagabharana). The silver Nagabharana has a snake figure with seven heads donated to the Temple in 1973 by former Maharaja Jayachamaraja Wadiyar following the birth of hs son Srikantadatta Narasimharaja Wadiyar. This jewellery is displayed only once a year during Subramanya Shashti.

As the hours passed, the crowd continued to grow. Among the early visitors were Chamundeshwari MLA G.T. Devegowda and District BJP President L.R. Mahadevaswamy. Devotees were allowed to offer darshan and attend mangalaarathi only in front of the Sanctum Sanctorum.

The Temple's entry system included both free entry (Dharmadarshana) and ticketed entry (Rs. 30), with separate queues for each. To manage the large crowd, barricades were placed around the Temple grounds. Milk offerings brought by devotees were collected at a designated point near Aralikatte behind the Temple. Many makeshift shops selling puja articles, toys, handicrafts, food items and other goods sprang up along the service road and other vacant areas around the Temple. The Revenue Department also assigned staff to monitor prasadam distribution, ensuring safety and quality.

The Temple will remain open for devotees until 9.30 pm, after which it will close at 10 pm following the completion of traditional rituals. Last year, the Jatra was scaled down due to reconstruction work at the Temple.

Service road closed: Due to the Shashti Jatra, the service road on the Mysuru-Bengaluru Highway was closed to vehicles. Devotees coming by car were directed to park at the Naganahalli turn and other nearby parking areas and walk to the Temple. However, traffic on the Highway remained unaffected.

The Police made extensive security arrangements around the temple. Barricades were set up to control the crowd, and officers were stationed to assist with parking and answer questions about darshan. Ambulances were also on standby for any medical or emergency needs.

Sanskruti Silks showcases heritage Banarasi Silk Sarees at JWGC

Sanskruti Silks is showcasing an exclusive exhibition of heritage collection of Banarasi Silk Sarees at Jayachamarajendra Wadiyar Golf Club (JWGC) premises in Mysuru today. Non-members may also visit the expo, which will be open till 8 pm. Some of the finest Kadhua Weave Katan Silks, Pure Tissue Silks, Georgettes and many more are available. This event is curated and conceptualised by Jaheena, Founder of Concoction Events. Seen in the picture during the inauguration are (from left) Dr. Sarah, Jaheena, Aparna Ranga, Dr. Hemamalini Lakshman, Swathi Bhagwat, Jayanthi Ballal, Ankita, Shashi and Yash.

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Kalasuruchi to present English Play 'Speak Your Mind' tomorrow

Monnappa Anuradha Keerthi Krishna Narasimha Ramesh Pradeep

A scene from the English Play 'Speak Your Mind.'

Mysuru, Dec. 7- Kalasuruchi will be presenting the English play 'Speak Your Mind' at Suruchi Rangamane in Kuvempunagar on Dec. 8 at 6.30 pm and at Kalpakshetra, 581/1, Vijayanagar 4th Stage, 1st Phase, on Dec. 15 at 6.30 pm.

Script: George Freek; **Direction:** A.K. Monnappa; **On Stage:** Ruth - C.V. Keerthi, Richard - K.V. Krishna Kashyap, Mildred - Anuradha Nandakumar, Harry - A.K. Monnappa; **Behind the Stage: Music (Design & Execution) & Set -** Narasimha Kumar; **Lighting -** Ramesh Gubbi; **Production Assistance -** M. Pradeep Kumar.

Kalasuruchi was founded by Sindhuvalli Ananthamurthy during the year 1985 and since then, it has been active in many genres of fine arts. The team now consists of dedicated people from various walks of life with a simple intention to take part and contribute to appreciation and performance of various art forms. While theatre has been its core focus, the team has also been active in performing and organising other art forms like Classical Music, Light Music, Harikathe etc.

Kalasuruchi has produced some major Kannada plays like "Vamsha Vriksha", "Bekku Baavi", "Haddu meerida hadi", "Mandra", "Bhavadajjukeeya" etc.

For the last few years, the team has been producing one English play per year. "Chandalika" by Tagore and "Hard Places" by Farhad Sorabjee, "Breath of Vyas" by Dileep Jhaveri, "Comrade Babble" by Alex Horiwitz, "Free Outgoing" by Anupama Chandrashekhar, "The Prophet and the Poet" by Vijay Padaki, "Stiffled" by Annie Zaidi were earlier productions

'Speak Your Mind': Ever since her father died, Ruth has been concerned about her mother Mildred. Ruth's husband Richard has his worries too, as Ruth's reverence for her father's memory seems to cloud her judgment. An unexpected guest in the form of Richard's boss Harry turns a simple dinner party into a stage for confessions and accusations.

This play examines, on the one hand, the mother-daughter and wife-husband relationships, while on the other, it shows how a cancer-surviving widow is trying to get on with her life which her father-fixated daughter is trying to put obstacles to.

George Freek has an MA in English at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. His plays have been produced by the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, the Changing Scene in Denver and various other college and amateur theatres. He has received grants from the Illinois Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts — the latter for a Residency at the New American Theatre in Rockford, Illinois, USA.

A.K. Monnappa is a former IAS Officer who has handled multiple portfolios from Agriculture to Bioenergy. He has been involved in theatre activities since childhood. He is a Founding-Member of METF (Mysore English Theatre Forum). He has been instrumental in setting Mysore Literary Association.

Anuradha Nandakumar is past District Chairman of Inner Wheel. She has acted in many plays in Marathi, Kannada and English. She is doing a lot of work in many social sectors especially for specially abled children and women.

C.V. Keerthi, a Post Graduate in English Literature, has had a variety of experiences. Airline Cabin experience, Engineering faculty and now a Lead Coordinator in a national-level NGO.

K.V. Krishna Kashyap is a Theatre Artiste, Emcee & Flautist. He has studied LTCL (Speech & Drama) - Trinity College of London. He has performed over a 100 shows and hosted over 4,000 shows in the last 10 years. He has directed the Shakespeare play 'Macbeth' and won first prize at the National-level Shakespeare SLAM competition.

Narasimha Kumar is a multi faceted personality who has contributed in multiple departments in Amateur theatre of Mysuru. He has contributed in set design, has been an actor and has designed and executed music for several plays.

Ramesh Kumar Gubbi has been part of Mysore Amateur Theatre for over 40 years and he has acted, directed and worked on backstage. Perhaps, there are no teams in Mysuru which have not been benefited by Ramesh's expertise and benevolence.

Pradeep Kumar has been a Ninasam & Rangayana student and is associated with many Mysuru-based theatre teams. He has acted in number of plays of Samatento, Kadamba Rangavedike, Rangavalli and Kalasuruchi among others.

'Sangeetha Vidya Nidhi' title conferred

29th JSS Music Conference concludes

PIC. 1: ***Veena maestro Dr. R. Visweswaran, who was the President of the 29th Music Conference organised by JSS Sangeetha Sabha Trust in memory of Dr. Sri Shivarathri Rajendra Swamiji, was conferred with the title 'Sangeetha Vidya Nidhi' during the valedictory of the Conference at Navajyothi Auditorium in JSS College for Women premises, Saraswathipuram, Mysuru, last evening. Dr. Visweswaran and his wife Usha, who were felicitated on the occasion, are seen with*** *(from left)* ***Vid. Tumkur B. Ravishankar, Vidu. T.S. Satyavathi, Vid. Nataraj, Trust Member Dr. Mysore Manjunath, MLA M. Krishnappa, Noopura Kalavidaru Samskrutika Trust Director & Sabha former President Prof. K. Ramamurthy Rao, Trust Member Vid. Mysore Nagaraj, Vid. Rupanagudi Ratna Teja and Vidu. Divya Shree.***

Pic.1

PIC. 2: ***Bhargavi Venkatram presenting a vocal concert on the occasion. She is accompanied by Vaibhav Ramani on violin and B.S. Prashanth on mridanga.***

PIC. 3: ***N. Ravikiran presenting a chitraveena concert on the penultimate day of the JSS Music Conference on Dec. 5. He is accompanied by Gayatri Sivani on violin, H.S. Sudhindra on mridanga and Sharath Kaushik on ghata.***

Pic.2

Pic.3

Delay in paying additional relief for land acquired

MCC furniture seized, released by Court official

- MCC Commissioner assures to take steps for payment of compensation amount
- 45 acres of land acquired for Melapura Drinking Water Project at Rammanahalli in 1994-95

Mysuru, Dec. 7 (RK&BS)- Embarrassing moments were witnessed at Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) on New Sayyaji Rao Road here on Friday, as the Court officials seized the furniture, following the delay in paying compensation to the owners of the land that had been acquired to build a Water Treatment Plant.

The Principal District and Sessions Court had issued an order in 2021 itself to MCC to pay a sum of Rs. 80 lakh to Rs. 1 crore, including the rate of interest per one acre of land, for the inordinate delay in paying the additional compensation amount.

The Court had also taken into cognisance, the unscientific fixation of compensation amount, if avoided, wouldn't have led to a situation to demand additional compensation for the acquired land.

The MCC had acquired 45 acres of land near Rammanahalli in the taluk, under Melapura Drinking Water Project in 1994-95, to build the Water Treatment Plant. The MCC had even agreed to pay Rs. 45,000 per acre of land. However, 14 land owners had moved the District Court seeking additional compensation. But the MCC had failed to heed the Court order.

Taking into note the prolonged delay in abiding by the Court order, the Court ordered to seize the MCC properties. Acting on the order, the Court Ameen, along with the Advocates of plaintiffs, seized the office furniture at the personal section of MCC Commissioner and shifted them to the corridor. Following this, the office staff had to stand, while discharging their duty till afternoon.

Later, MCC Commissioner Ashaad-Ur-Rahman Shariff held talks with the Advocates and land-loser farmers from Rammanahalli and directed the MCC Superintending Engineer K.J. Sindhu and officials of Accounts Section, to take steps for the payment of the additional compensation amount. The steps have been already taken for part payment of the amount.

Following the assurance from MCC Commissioner, Court staff returned after handing back the furniture seized at MCC office.

Embezzlement at Vani Vilas Water Works

Six time-scale staff dismissed from service

15 contractual meter readers relieved of their duties; Police complaints to be lodged

Mysuru, Dec. 7 (RK&BCT)- In a crackdown on corruption, six time-scale staff members of Vani Vilas Water Works (VVWW), the water supply wing of the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC), have been dismissed from service and 15 contractual meter readers have also been relieved of their duties.

The action comes in the wake of a major embezzlement involving the misuse of water bill collections to the tune of Rs. 1.25 crore. During a review meeting in October 2024 to assess progress on outstanding water bill collections, it was discovered that certain VVWW staff had misused consumer bill payments.

An Inquiry Committee, headed by Superintending Engineer K.J. Sindhu, found the employees and contractual staff guilty and accordingly, a report was submitted to MCC Commissioner Ashaad-Ur-Rahman Shariff, who took the disciplinary action.

Inspectors and meter readers guilty

The dismissed employees, including Water Inspectors Chennegowda, K. Mahesh and N. Mohan, as well as meter readers Venkatesh and Saifulla, confessed to their involvement in the crime through written statements. Approximately Rs. 1 crore was recovered from them during the investigation. The dismissal notice has been addressed to each person.

The probe uncovered that over the past 18 months, the staff had been hacking the software module developed by Seminal Software Pvt. Ltd. used for water bill collection to generate fake receipts and misappropriate funds.

Acting on the investigation's findings, the MCC Commissioner issued orders yesterday for their dismissal under Government service rules, demonstrating a firm stance against malpractices. It may be recalled here that *Star of Mysore* published a front-page story on the corrupt practice yesterday under the title 'Rs. 1.25 crore Embezzlement at Vani Vilas Water Works'

Police complaint

A notice has been issued to the head of the company that provided the contract workers, with steps underway to blacklist them. The MCC is also preparing action against Mallikarjun, representing Seminal Software, the software service provider, for his role in the misuse of public money. The investigation revealed that Mallikarjun hacked the login credentials of the Executive Engineer and used them to generate fake bills in the software daily.

MCC authorities are moving ahead with plans to file a criminal case against Mallikarjun and three others, who are identified as the main accused of misusing the software to manipulate drinking water bill collections and misappropriate funds.

Commissioner Ashaad-Ur-Rahman Shariff has instructed his subordinates to lodge a criminal complaint at the V.V. Puram Police Station.

The VVWW officials will submit a detailed written complaint, along with supporting documents, on Dec. 7 (today), ensuring strict legal action against those responsible.

SUCI(C) condemns atrocity on Hindus in Bangladesh

Mysuru, Dec. 7 (MTY&BS)- Activists of Socialist Unity Centre of India (Communist) — SUCI(C) — staged a protest at Gandhi Square in the city on Friday, condemning the atrocities being committed against the Hindus in Bangladesh and demanding to curtail communal forces in our country.

The protesters said, the Hindus, who are in minority numbers in Bangladesh, are being targeted in a inhumane manner. Hindus had participated in Bangladesh Liberation Movement and Government of India had also extended its support to Bangladesh. Now, taking advantage of the political turmoil in that country, the communal forces there are targeting the Hindus.

In India too, the communal forces are unleashing atrocity, with BJP and Sangh Parivars instigating them, challenging the law & order situation in country.

The action should be taken to restore peace in both the country and the troubles being faced by common man and minorities should be stopped, to create a harmonious situation in the country, they demanded.

SUCI(C) District Secretary B. Ravi, leaders Umadevi, Chandrashekar Meti, P.S. Sandhya, Yashodhar, G.S. Seema, Harish, Sunil, Basavaraju, Suma, Chandrakala and Asia Begum were present.

Woman arrested, two gold chains recovered

Mysuru, Dec. 7 (RK&BS)- A woman has been arrested on the charges of chain snatching at KSRTC Sub-urban Bus Stand in the city and two gold chains weighing 56 grams worth Rs. 3.9 lakh have been recovered from her, by the Lashkar Police.

The woman was found moving suspiciously, when the Police were on patrolling duty at Sub-urban Bus Stand.

They detained her and took her to the Police Station and upon inquiry, learnt that she was adept at targeting woman and robbing their gold chains.

Acting under the guidance of DCP (Crime and Traffic) S. Jahnavi and ACP (Devaraja Sub-Division) Shanthamallappa, the Police team led by Lashkar Inspector K.R. Prasad cracked the cases.

The Police team included Sub-Inspectors M. Radha and Anil Kumar Vannoora, staff Suresh, Ravikumar, Girish, Manjunath, Chowdappa Pasigara, Abdul Rehman, Chikkanna Swamy and Ashwini Halawara.

Minister opens Millets Excellence and Incubation Centre at CFTRI

43rd batch of International School of Milling Technology (ISMT) passes out

Mysuru, Dec. 7 (MK&BCT)- Agriculture Minister N. Cheluvarayaswamy inaugurated the 'Millets Excellence and Incubation Centre' at the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research-Central Food Technological Research Institute (CSIR-CFTRI) in the city last evening.

Constructed at a cost of Rs. 20 crore with State Government support, the centre is designed to benefit farmers and consumers while strengthening Karnataka's leadership in millet production.

Following the inauguration, the Minister toured the facility's three units, inspecting machinery and millet-based products. Commending CFTRI's efforts, he highlighted the institute's contribution to producing high-quality millet products that align with the growing public interest in healthy food alternatives.

Agriculture Minister N. Cheluvarayaswamy seen pressing the button to inaugurate 'Millets Excellence and Incubation Centre' at CSIR-CFTRI in city last evening as CFTRI Director Dr. Sridevi Annapurna Singh, CESC Chairman Rameshbabu Bandisiddegowda and others look on. Picture right shows medal winners of 43rd batch of International School of Milling Technology (ISMT) course with the chief guests and CFTRI Director.

He also stressed the role of technology in agriculture, citing how tools like sugarcane harvesters can significantly reduce labour costs and wastage, saving up to 25 tonnes of produce. The Minister further emphasised the importance of empowering farmers through loans, facilities, and efficient implementation of Government schemes.

ISMT graduation and achievements

During the same event, candidates of the 43rd batch of the International School of Milling Technology (ISMT) were felicitated for completing their training in flour milling technology.

Established in 1981 as an Indo-Swiss collaboration and a project with the Roller Flour Millers' Federation of India, ISMT has trained 885 participants to date, including 120 from developing countries.

Dr. Sridevi Annapurna Singh, Director of CFTRI, highlighted the course's continual updates to meet the evolving demands of the milling industry, particularly in tropical developing nations.

"The training equips technical personnel with the expertise to manage modern roller flour mills effectively. The curriculum includes in-plant training, practical sessions in the ISMT Mill (20 tonnes per day capacity), and guest lectures by industry experts," she noted.

State-of-the-art machinery

The programme also incorporates state-of-the-art machinery for cleaning and milling, flour fortification and automated handling and packing systems. Graduates have significantly improved the operations of roller flour mills globally, based on feedback from the industry.

In the 43rd batch, Chinedu Chukwualuka Epuechi bagged the gold medal, S.R. Varshitha secured the silver and Nandyala Surya Teja bagged the bronze medal. Additionally, Varshitha received a gold medal for excellence in Cereal Science, while Avnish Kumar Singh was awarded a gold medal for scoring the highest in Baking Science.

K. Phaneendra, Operations Manager of Manikchand Group, was the chief guest. Ashutosh A. Inamdar, Senior Principal Scientist at CFTRI, provided an overview of the ISMT course.

A booklet on millet information was unveiled during the event. Chamaraja MLA K. Harishgowda, former Speaker V.R. Sudarshan, CESC Chairman and MLA Rameshbabu Bandisiddegowda, and Agriculture Commissioner Patil were present.

Baandhavya-2024 begins in city

Rotary Mysore Midtown felicitated Paralympians Pallavi, Poorna Rao and Hemanth during the inauguration of Baandhavya-2024 at University of Mysore Athletic Grounds in city this morning. They are seen with Suttur Mutt Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji, N. Ranga Rao & Sons CEO Arjun Ranga, RI Dist. 3181 Assistant Governor Rtn. Dr. K.A. Prahlad, Rotary Mysore Midtown President Rtn S. Kumara Swamy, Hon. Secretary Rtn. Elizar Milton, Baandhavya-2024 Chairman Rtn. R. Venkatesh, Vice-Chairman Rtn. R. Ravindra Babu, Community Service Director Rtn. R. Nagaraj, Convenor Rtn. A.N. Aiyanna, Inner Wheel Club of Mysore Midtown President Ashwini Raghavendra and Secretary Revathi Baliga.

Mysuru, Dec. 7 (GA&VNS)- Baandhavya-2024, sports event for specially-abled organised by Rotary Mysore Midtown, was inaugurated by N. Ranga Rao & Sons CEO Arjun Ranga at University of Mysore Athletic Grounds (Oval Grounds), here this morning.

Speaking on the occasion, Arjun Ranga lauded the efforts of parents and teachers for providing special care to special children.

He also remembered his school days when he actively took part in the annual sports event and appreciated Rotary Mysore Midtown for organising sports to special kids.

He said India would witness drastic changes in sports in the coming 20 years with athletes from the country dominating in the Olympics.

Around 500 special children from 18 special schools took part in various athletic events. Children were being encouraged by their teachers, parents and the members present at the venue.

Suttur Mutt Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji, RI Dist. 3181 Assistant Governor Rtn. Dr. K.A. Prahlad, Rotary Mysore Midtown President Rtn. S. Kumara Swamy, Hon. Secretary Rtn. Elizar Milton, Baandhavya - 2024 Chairman Rtn. R. Venkatesh, Vice-Chairman Rtn. R. Ravindra Babu, Community Service Director Rtn. R. Nagaraj, Inner Wheel Club of Mysore Midtown President Ashwini Raghavendra, Secretary Revathi Baliga and others were present. On the occasion, Rotary Mysore Midtown felicitated Paralympians Hemanth, Poorna Rao and Pallavi.

The valedictory of the sports will be held in the evening with Senior Theatre Person Indira Nair as chief guest and RI Dist. - 3181 District Governor-Elect Rtn. P.K. Ramakrishna as the guest of honour.

A special cultural programme has been organised tomorrow (Dec. 8) at Manasa Kuteera in Dwarkanagar with actor Dharma Kirthiraj and Karnatak vocalist Rajath Sharma as chief guests.

Talk on 'Is Caste Census necessary for Social Justice?'

Mysuru, Dec. 7- Mysore Open Forum has organised a panel discussion talk on the topic "Is Caste Census necessary for Social Justice?" by three eminent scholars — V.K. Nataraj, M.R. Sreenivasa Murthy and Ravivarma Kumar — at 10.30 am on Sunday (Dec. 8) at Kalpa Kshetra Auditorium, 581/1, Vijayanagar 4th Stage, 1st Phase, Mysuru.

Prof. V.K. Nataraj is the former Registrar of University of Mysore and former Head of Madras Institute of Development Studies while M.R. Sreenivasa Murthy is former Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka and Dr. Ravivarma Kumar is former Advocate General of Government of Karnataka.

They will be discussing various aspects of having a Caste Census and the almost impossible task of rectifying the anomalies of the caste system in India. The way political parties use to their advantages the reality of caste system in the society will also be discussed.

The talk is open to all. For more details call Mob: 94498-19536.

MOVIE LOVERS

NOW SHOWING - SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Gayathri Theatre** — **Ph: 2443568**
  Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (K) - 4 Shows
- **Sangam Theatre** — **Ph: 2520494**
  Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** — **Mob: 98863-25207**
  Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (H) - 4 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** — **Mob: 99008-20093**
  Bhairathi Ranagal (K) - 4 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** — **Ph: 2422871**
  Bhairathi Ranagal (K) - 4 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** — **Ph: 2423554**
  Bagheera (K) - 4 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** — **Mob: 98454-14691**
  Bagheera (K) - 4 Shows
- **Thibbadevi Theatre** — **Ph: 2452958**
  Zebra (K) - 4 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** — **Ph: 2420885**
  Lucky Bhaskara (K) - 4 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** — **Ph: 2521923**
  Dheera Bhagat Roy (K) - 4 Shows

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (K)	(S-1)	9.45 am, 1.45 pm
	(S-3)	6.15 pm, 10.10 pm
Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (H)	(S-1)	5.50 pm
Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (Te)	(S-1)	9.50 pm: (S-2) 8.10 pm
	(S-4)	10.10 am, 2.10 pm
		6.05 pm, 10 pm
Moana 2 (E-3D)	(S-2)	11 am, 3.45 pm, 6 pm
Solo Leveling - ReAwakening (Japanese)	(S-2)	1.10 pm
The Sabarmati Report (H)	(S-3)	10.25 am
Bairathi Ranagal (K)	(S-3)	1.05 pm
Haridasara Dinachari (K)	(S-3)	4 pm

MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Amaran (K)	(S-1)	10.30 am, 7.30 pm
Bhairathi Ranagal (K)	(S-1)	1.45 pm; (S-2) 10.40 am
Dheera Bhagath Roy (K)	(S-1)	4.30 pm
Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (K)	(S-2)	1.15 pm, 5.15 pm, 9.15 pm
	(S-3)	11.30 am, 7.45 pm
	(S-4)	2.15 pm
Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (Te)	(S-3)	4 pm
	(S-4)	10.30 am, 6 pm, 9.45 pm

PVR CINEMAS — 4K Dolby 7.1

Nexus Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor. Mob: 8951357139

Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (Te-2D)	:	8:25 am, 8.30 am, 9.30 am
		10.30 am, 12.30 pm, 1.30 pm
		2.30 pm, 4.30, 5.30 pm
		6.30 pm, 7.30 pm, 8.30 pm
		9.30, 10.30 pm
Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (H-2D)	:	9 am, 1.10 pm, 5 pm, 10 pm
Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (K-2D)	:	9.10 am 1 pm, 6 pm, 9 pm
Solo Leveling - ReAwakening (Japanese)	:	12.25 pm
Bhairathi Ranagal (K)	:	3.05 pm
Moana 2 (E-3D)	:	5.10 pm

1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 9901373210

Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (K-2D)	:	9.30 am, 1.30 pm
		5.30 pm, 9.30 pm
Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (Te-2D)	:	10.30 am, 11.25 am
		2.30 pm, 4.50 pm, 6.30 pm
		8.50 pm, 10.30 pm
Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (H-2D)	:	5.45 pm, 9.45 pm
Bhairathi Ranagal (K)	:	11 am
Aaram Arvindswamy (K)	:	1.55 pm
Moana 2 (E-3D)	:	3.25 pm

INOX LIVE the MOVIE

Mall of Mysore - Mob: 7829999465

Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (Te-2D)	:	8.30 am, 10.30 am, 12.30 pm
		2.30 pm, 4.30 pm, 6.30 pm
		8.30 pm, 10.30 pm
Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (H-2D)	:	8.55 am, 12.55 pm
		5.30 pm, 10.15 pm
Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (K-2D)	:	9.30 am, 1.30 pm, 9.30 pm
Moana 2 (E-2D)	:	4.55 pm
Bhairathi Ranagal (K)	:	7.20 pm

INOX Centro Mysore - Mob: 9606976757

Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (Te-2D)	:	8.35 am, 9.30 am, 10.30 am
		1.30 pm, 2.30 pm, 3.50 pm
		5.30 pm, 6.30 pm
		9.30 pm, 10.30 pm
Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (K-2D)	:	10 am, 6 pm
Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (H-2D)	:	2 pm, 10.15 pm
Pushpa: The Rule - Part 2 (Ma-2D)	:	10 pm
Dheera Bhagat Roy (K)	:	12.35 pm
Moana 2 (H)	:	7.50 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

EVENTS TODAY (DEC. 7)

- **ISHRAE, Mysuru Chapter:** Urjavaran-2024, National Technical Seminar (Theme: Policy & Regulatory Frameworks for Sustainable HVAC Practices), Vidyavardhaka Sangha Secretary P. Vishwanath chief guest, BARC/ RMP Project Director (retd.) Dr. T.K. Bera guest of honour, ISHRAE Mysuru Chapter President Arani Srinivas presides, Hotel Kalyani, Ring Road, **4.30 pm.**
- **Rotary Mysore Midtown, RI Dist. 3181:** Baandhavya-2024, valedictory ceremony of sports events for differently-abled, Senior Theatre Person Indira Nair and RI Dist. 3181 District Governor-Elect Rtn. P.K. Ramakrishna guests of honour, University of Mysore Athletic Grounds (Oval Grounds), **4.30 pm.**
- **Sri Jayachamaraja Ursu Educational Trust, Mysuru, Ursu Mandali Sangha, Mysuru and Ursu Association, Bengaluru:** Book Launch, Pramoda Devi Wadiyar of Mysore Royal Family releases the book 'Kempananjammanni' (authored by Dr. Gajanana Sharma), titular head of Mysore Royal Family & MP Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar presides, Dr. Gajanana Sharma chief guest, Sri Kappadi Mutt Seer M.L. Varchasvi Siddalinga Raje Urs, retd. Dy. Director of Divisional Archives Office (Mysuru) Dr. J.V. Gayathri and retd. Associate Professor of Maharani's Arts College for Women (Mysuru) Dr. B.V. Sudhamani guests of honour, Jaganmohan Palace, **4.30 pm.**
- **Kalasuruchi:** 'Kathe Kelona Banni - 857,' story-telling by S. Ramesh, retd. Bank Officer, Indian Overseas Bank, Mysuru, **4.30 pm;** Inauguration of Drishya-Kathana edition, wildlife photographer Hrishikesh Rao's photos will be exhibited along with the stories around those photos, Nima Manjrekar, wildlife biologist, inaugurates, **5.45 pm;** Flute Concert by R. Balasubramanya, accompanied by Pandit Parameshwar Hegde on tabla, Suruchi Rangamane, Chitrabhanu Road, Kuvempunagar, **6.30 pm.**
- **Shri Durga Nrutya Academy Charitable Trust, Mysuru:** Avalokana dance programme, Margam by Shijith Nambiar and Parvathy Menon of Chennai, RamaGovinda Rangamandira, Ramakrishnanagar, **5 pm.**
- **Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha:** Smt. Shantha Narasimham Memorial Concert, Karnatak Classical Vocal by Dr. R. Ganesh, accompanied by Dr. Jyothsna Srikanth on violin, Vid. Vinod Anoor on mridanga and Vid. Sharat Kaushik on ghata (sponsored by Seetha Vatsalchari), Sabha premises, JLB Road, **5.30 pm.**
- **Sri Ramakrishna Ashram, Mysuru:** Swami Mahamedhanandaji speaks on 'Letters of Swami Vivekananda' in English, Ashram premises, Yadavagiri, **6 pm to 6.50 pm.**
- **Dastkaar Haat:** Indian Handloom and Handicraft Exhibition, Scouts & Guides Ground, behind Old DC's Office, **up to 9.30 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (DEC. 8)

- **Carmel Catholic Association (CCA), Mysuru:** Inauguration of 32nd Carol Singing Competition, MP Yaduveer Wadiyar inaugurates, Apostolic Administrator of Mysore Diocese Most Rev. Dr. Bernard Moras delivers benedictory address, CCA President Prof. Joseph Mathew presides, **8.30 am;** Valedictory, KPA Director S.L. Chennabasavanna chief guest, Mandya Diocese Bishop Mar Sebastian Adayantharath gives Christmas Message and delivers valedictory address, Maharaja's College Centenary Hall, **6.30 pm.**
- **Alcoholics Anonymous, Mysore InterGroup, Mysuru:** 23rd Anniversary of Mysore AA Fellowship and 4th Anniversary of Mysore InterGroup, Arun Chakravarthy, Additional Director General of Police, Karnataka and Chairman, GSB Alcoholic Anonymous India, chief guest, St. Philomena's Church premises, Lashkar Mohalla, **10 am to 2 pm.**
- **Karnataka Ursu Mahamandali Charitable (KUMC) Trust:** Yuva Janotsava, book release and interaction programme, actor B. Suresh Urs inaugurates, programmes by youths, retd. IAS Officer B.R. Jayaramaraje Urs releases the book, KUMC Trust President B.S. Sridhar Raje Urs presides, Sri Venugopalaswamy Temple premises, Tyagaraja Road, **10.30 am.**
- **Mysuru District Kannada Sahitya Parishat, Women's Wing and Mysuru Jilla Chutuku Sahitya Parishat:** Releasing of book 'Bhavanegala Guccha' authored by B.M. Rajini Bhanave, former Minister M. Shivanna inaugurates, litterateur Dr. C.P. Krishnakumar (CPK) releases the book, Chutuku Yugacharya Dr. MGR Urs presides, Mysuru District (Rural) Congress President Dr. B.J. Vijaykumar, Mysuru District Kannada Sahitya Parishat President Maddikere Gopal, Mysuru Jilla Chutuku Sahitya Parishat President Dr. Rathna Halappagowda, Vaidyavartha Publication Director J.P. Urs and writer B.M. Rajani Bhanave chief guests, Kannada Sahitya Parishat Auditorium, Vijayanagar, **10.30 am.**
- **Mysore Open Forum:** Panel Discussion on 'Is Caste Census necessary for Social Justice?,' V.K. Nataraj, former Director, Madras Institute of Development Studies, M.R. Sreenivasa Murthy, former Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka (GoK) and Ravivarma Kumar, former Advocate General, GoK, will be the panellists, Kalpa Kshetra auditorium, Vijayanagar 4th Stage, **10.30 am.**
- **Dastkaar Haat:** Indian Handloom and Handicraft Exhibition, Scouts & Guides Ground, behind Old DC's Office, **10.30 am to 9.30 pm.**
- **Calendar release:** Releasing of Wildlife Photographs Calendar, Rangayana Director Satish Tiptur, film editor M.N. Swamy and artiste-film director M.S. Prakash Babu will be present, Rangachavadi, Rangayana premises, **11 am.**
- **Rotary Mysore Midtown, RI Dist. 3181:** Baandhavya-2024, cultural programmes for differently-abled, cine actor Dharma Kirthiraj of Bigg Boss-fame inaugurates, Karnatak Vocalist Rajath Sharma guest of honour, Manasa Kuteera, Dwarakanagar, **4.30 pm.**
- **Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha:** Smt. Lalitha V. Murthy Birthday Memorial Concert, 'Lakshya,' an Indian Classical Ensemble by Vid. K.J. Diliip - violin, Vidu. Ila Sangeetha Diliip - violin & vocal, Vid. Sunaad Anoor - rhythms and Vid. Aman Mahajan - keyboard (Sponsored by Dr. Prathibha Pereira, Padma Sathish and Monica Kim, daughters of Lalitha V. Murthy), Sabha premises, JLB Road, **6 pm.**
- **Shri Durga Nrutya Academy Charitable Trust, Mysuru:** Avalokana dance programme, Bharatanatyam by students of Mysuru and Kollegal branches of Shri Durga Nrutya Academy, **4.30 pm;** Solo performance by Kavya Kashinathan, RamaGovinda Rangamandira, Ramakrishnanagar, **6 pm.**

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